

makes it very difficult to implement into places like Metropolitan Toronto.

In response to his question on whether we should introduce something such as mortgage deductibility, we have taken steps in tax reform to lower the whole level of tax rates. The reduction in tax rates will provide a much broader incentive for people right across the country.

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HEALTH

NATIONAL NATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ALCOHOL AND DRUG ABUSE

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, my question is addressed to the Minister of National Health and Welfare. Will the Minister confirm that he has dissolved the National Native Advisory Committee on Alcohol and Drug Abuse? Will he explain why, in view of the seriousness of alcohol and other substance abuse among natives, and the need to have native input into bringing about solutions, he has taken this action?

Hon. Jake Epp (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, I do not believe the premise on which the Hon. Member bases his question is correct.

ASSISTANT DEPUTY MINISTER'S LETTER

Mr. Howard McCurdy (Windsor—Walkerville): Mr. Speaker, I have a letter in my hand addressed to Mr. Roger Augustine, signed by Mr. J. D. Nicholson who is Assistant Deputy Minister, which states that everything will be wound up by December 31, 1988. Perhaps the Minister is not in charge.

Therefore I would ask him to ask questions of his Deputy Minister to find out what is going on in Health and Welfare.

Hon. Jake Epp (Minister of National Health and Welfare): Mr. Speaker, we know what is going on in Health and Welfare. We also know what is going on in terms of NNA-DAP, the drug and alcohol abuse program. What I tell the Hon. Member is that in terms of the amount of money that we are spending in NNADAP obviously that will continue. However, we also want to get from NNADAP some re-evaluation. In some cases we now have facilities where our costs per bed are running extremely high. I think we can get more cost efficiency and in fact more people supported in drug and alcohol abuse programs than some of the infrastructure costs that we are facing.

Oral Questions

[Translation]

CANADIAN ALLIANCE FOR PEACE

REQUEST THAT CRUISE MISSILE TESTING ON CANADIAN SOIL BE ENDED

Hon. André Ouellet (Papineau): Mr. Speaker, I would like to ask the Deputy Prime Minister to answer some questions that were put this morning to the Leader of the Opposition at a meeting he had with the Canadian Peace Alliance. People representing the Alliance, which brings together nearly 400 organizations, were here and they complained to the Leader of the Opposition that they did not get pertinent answers to the questions they raised with the Government.

I therefore take this opportunity to ask the Deputy Prime Minister . . .

[English]

In view of the U.S.A.-U.S.S.R. agreement banning intermediate-range nuclear forces in Europe, is the Deputy Prime Minister now in a position to declare that Cruise missile testing in Canada will no longer be accepted?

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, as the Hon. Member should know, the INF agreement between the Soviet Union and the United States, which was a result of the two-track decision taken by NATO, deals only with the issue of ground-launch Cruise missiles. Submarine-launch and air-launch Cruise missiles are not covered by the agreement. Our hope would be to have them covered under the START talks. Those talks are still going on.

At the present time we continue to find Soviet long-range bombers approaching the Canadian air defence identification zone. The purpose of those long-range bombers is to carry the air-launch Cruise missile. The air-launch Cruise missile continues to be a threat to Canada's security.

It is appropriate that Canada should continue to test an unarmed guidance system of an air-launch Cruise missile in Canada.

INTERNATIONAL VERIFICATION AGENCY—CANADIAN POSITION

Hon. André Ouellet (Papineau): Mr. Speaker, my supplementary question is this. The Hon. Minister should know that there is currently taking place at the United Nations discussions which are very important concerning disarmament. Why is Canada not ready to accept the proposal that has been put forward which is now under discussion to have an international verification agency come under the auspices of the United Nations? Why is Canada not ready to accept this? Certainly such an agency would be absolutely essential to monitor disarmament, and certainly to monitor a treaty such as the INF.

Hon. Perrin Beatty (Minister of National Defence): Mr. Speaker, the Secretary of State for External Affairs is currently at the United Nations at UNSSOD III. He will be